

An Index of Treatment by Various Writers. Robert Hutchison, M.D., F.R.C.P., and James Sherren, C.B.E., F.R.C.S. Ninth edition revised and enlarged. 1035 pages, 89 illustrations. John Wright & Sons Ltd. Bristol. The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Toronto.

An index of treatment will always be faced by the difficulty of avoiding on the one hand unwieldiness, and on the other incompleteness. The original plan of this volume aimed particularly at describing only the most simple and effective methods of treatment, and great praise is due to the editors for the manner in which they have carried out their task. The various editions which have appeared have been the occasion for constant enlargement and have kept well up to date, whilst the keynote of conservatism is well sustained. The introductory comments are particularly apt and stimulating. How much do we nowadays need such cautions as this: "tend rather to adhere to the old and tried methods than to be always running after new gods. Don't be blown about by every wind of doctrine; but preserve a cool, detached and rather skeptical attitude to the latest therapeutic craze until its merits have been thoroughly and scientifically tested." But this is not to be taken in the sense of bigotry or intolerance, for "one should also be eclectic and ready to accept methods of proved efficacy, no matter whence they come. It is possible to get therapeutic hints even from laymen, bone-setters, or Christian Scientists."

The contributors include some of the most noteworthy medical men in Great Britain, and in all respects the book forms a trustworthy and clearly arranged index of modern methods of treatment.

H. E. MACDERMOT

Textbook of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology. John E. W. MacFall, M.D., D.P.H., Ninth edition, revised. 445 pages, illustrated. Price \$4.50. E. & S. Livingstone, Edinburgh. The Macmillan Co. New York and Toronto, 1925.

Prof. MacFall has revised Buchanan's Text-book which in its earlier editions as Husband's *Forensic Medicine* was well known as a favourite manual for students and junior practitioners. The parts of the work dealing with legal criminal procedure, lunacy certificates, unqualified assistants and sale of poisons make specific reference to the legal requirements in the British Isles and do not generally apply in Canada. It is a well written text for students and should meet with the same kindly reception in the schools of medicine as did the earlier editions of the work.

V. H. ELLIOTT

International Clinics. Henry W. Cattell and others. Vol. III. Thirty-fifth series. 309 pages, 68 illustrations. Price \$3.00. J. B. Lippincott Co., 201 Unity Bldg., Montreal, 1925.

This volume on the whole contains much that is of value to the general practitioner. The balance between subjects of surgical and of medical interest is well kept, and the questions dealt with are those that are under frequent discussion at present.

Publications such as these are possibly of most value when a series is at hand so that various subjects can be followed through volumes, even though they may not be taken up under exactly the same heading in each volume.

It is obvious also that the collaborators are not all of equal capacity. In the volume under review we may mention one or two papers of particular values such as the one by Dr. J. B. Deaver on the causes and differential diagnosis of the acute abdomen; by Dr. J. B. Collip in reviewing his own work on the parathyroid glands, and by Dr. Jablons on Thromboangiitis Obliterans, who deals with a series of 200 cases of this condition.

C. E. BROWN

The Surgical Clinics of North America. Vol. 5, No. 5, (St. Louis Number, October, 1925). 315 pages, illustrated. Price, paper \$12.00; cloth \$16.00 per clinic year. W. B. Saunders Co., London and Philadelphia: McInsh & Co., Toronto.

This volume contains the usual number of good papers on surgical subjects, and is from the Clinics of St. Louis. Among these the following are noticeable. Dr. Bartlett discusses the problem of the choice of operation when two conditions present in the same patient for which operation would be indicated, one of these being thyroidectomy; this operation he says should never be done at the same sitting with another major operation. Dr. Sachs presents various types of lesion of the central nervous system amenable to surgical treatment, cases illustrating dural endothelioma, glioma, and fourth ventricle papilloma are cited, and these are removed under local anaesthesia. Dr. Fisher discusses tuberculosis of the caecum, both primary and associated with tuberculosis of the lungs, with citation of cases. He practices resection of the caecum and ascending colon with lateral amastomisis. Excellent results are recorded. The recent improvements in radiography of the gall bladder are discussed by Dr. Graham, who has done so much to bring about these improvements.

C. E. SMYTH

Textbook of Histology. Bailey. Revised by Oliver S. Strong, A.M., Ph. D., and Adolph Elwyn, A.M., Seventh edition. 938 pages, illustrated. Price \$7.00. William Wood & Co., New York, 1925.

The modern medical student can never complain of lack of aids to learning; rather indeed, may he find it hard to select from the abundance which he has presented to him. A book however which rests on so sure a basis as Bailey's "Histology" gives a welcome sense of security, and this last edition shows the results of the usual careful and complete revision which has always characterized the previous editions. The changes which have been made have led to considerable expansion, as has been the case of other anatomical books, e.g., Cunningham's dissecting manual. Much of this is due to the new and very excellent illustrations which are introduced, but there is also a great deal of new matter; there is for example reference to the recently established fact of the contractile element in the walls of blood capillaries. Perhaps a little more might have been made of Krogh's researches on the anatomical distribution of these blood channels.

The tendency for a separation to occur between the teaching of histology and that of anatomy has been recognized, and is guarded against as well as may be done. In all respects this textbook is one which serves the teacher no less completely than it does the student.

H. E. MACDERMOT

The Vital Capacity of the Lungs. By J. A. Myers, M.D. 140 pages, 32 illustrations. Price \$3.25. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1925.

This book will be appreciated by those clinicians interested in diseases of the heart and lungs. It is a compilation of the literature, and especially the more recent portions of it, on the application of measurements of vital capacity to pathological conditions of heart and lungs. The work is admittedly influenced by the studies of Dreyer on the value of the vital lung capacity tests in aviation.

The author, first of all, reviews factors other than disease which may influence the results and then shows the value of the determination by citing examples of cardiac involvement, tuberculosis, pneumonia, etc., either from his own experience or from the current literature.

The book contains very full tables which enable the user of the method to calculate and evaluate quite